

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 116960
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCE-00 AID-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05
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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS STATE 116960

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MASS, TU, GR, PEPR

SUBJECT: SENATOR CHURCH ENDORSES LIFTING OF EMBARGO ON
TURKEY

FOLLOWING IS PERTINENT QUESTION AND ANSWER FROM SENATOR
FRANK CHURCH'S APPEARANCE BEFORE CBS TV PROGRAM "FACE THE
NATION" ON MAY 7.

QUESTION: SENATOR, LET ME TURN YOUR ATTENTION TO ANOTHER
ARMS QUESTION. WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE WEEKS, THE CARTER
ADMINISTRATION WILL ASK THE CONGRESS, AND THE FOREIGN RE-
LATIONS COMMITTEE WILL DEAL WITH THE QUESTION OF LIFTING THE
ARMS EMBARGO TO TURKEY. WILL YOU SUPPORT THE ADMINISTRATION
IN -- AS FAR AS LIFTING ARMS SALES EMBARGO TO TURKEY?

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SEN. CHURCH: THAT'S BEEN A -- A DECISION THAT I HAVE AN-
GUISHED OVER. YOU SEE, IN THE BEGINNING I THOUGHT THE TURKS
DID WRONG. THEY USED WEAPONS TO INVADE CYPRUS AGAINST THEIR
PLEDGE TO THE UNITED STATES AND THEREFORE, I THOUGHT THAT THE
CONGRESSIONAL EMBARGO WAS WARRANTED, AND I THOUGHT THAT IT
MIGHT PROVE SOME LEVERAGE ON THE TURKS TO SETTLE THE CYPRUS
MATTER. AND TWICE, OR THREE TIMES NOW, I VOTED FOR THE

EMBARGO. BUT WE'VE BEEN AROUND THAT TRACK TWO OR THREE TIMES, AND IT HAS NOT ACCOMPLISHED ITS PURPOSE, I HAVE TO ADMIT IT. WE'RE NO CLOSER NOW TO A SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS

THAN WE WERE WHEN WE STARTED TO ASSERT THIS LEVERAGE, AND I THINK THAT, THEREFORE, IT DOES NOT SERVE OUR INTEREST TO PERPETUATE A POLICY THAT HAS OBVIOUSLY FAILED, AND ON THAT ACCOUNT, AND WITH CONSIDERABLE RELUCTANCE -- BECAUSE MY SYMPATHIES HAVE BEEN WITH THE GREEKS AND THE GREEK CYPRIOTS IN THIS MATTER -- I THINK WE SHOULD FACE UP TO THE FACT THAT THE POLICY HAS FAILED AND THEREFORE I AM PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST TO LIFT THE EMBARGO. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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